

In her book, "The Way They Learn: How to Discover and Teach to Your Child's Strengths," Cynthia Tobias builds on Gregorc's model of learning styles. She discusses four dominant styles: The Dominant Concrete Sequential (CS), the Dominant Abstract Sequential (AS), the Dominant Abstract Random (AR), the Dominant Concrete Random (CR). These styles are based on how we take in information and how we process that information. At the onset, let me say that Ms. Tobias does not say that we are **only one** style. She says that each of us has a "unique blend of natural strengths and abilities" (p. 18). The CS learners are dependable, consistent, factual, organized and live with lists. The AS people are analytical, objective, knowledgeable, logical, and deliberate. The AR students are sensitive, compassionate, perceptive, imaginative, idealistic, sentimental and spontaneous. As we analyze the CR learner, they are the quick ones who are intuitive, curious realistic, instinctive, adventurous and innovative (p. 19). I call the CR students the "movers and shakers." The rules are never for them; they always have a better way of doing things! They are on their way to being our transformational leaders.

It goes without saying that the sky is the limit with varying teaching strategies to meet learning styles. Aside from everything else at our fingertips, the Internet with a world of ideas is just a click away. Any challenging curriculum can be taught and understood when lessons are structured to engage and motivate the learners.

Sources

Gregorc Adult Style Delineator

<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/fcs/Professional%20PDFs/10a%20Gregorc%20Learning%20and%20Teaching%20Styles.pdf>

Orlich, Harder, Callahan, Trevisan, Brown, Miller. (2013). *Teaching strategies: A guide to effective instruction*. Cengage Learning.

Tobias, Cynthia Ulrich. (1994). *The way they learn: How to discover and teach to your child's strengths*. Tyndale Publishers.